



Billing Code 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2012-0050]

Notice of Request for Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection; Importation and Transportation of Meat and Poultry Products

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing its intention to request an extension of an approved information collection regarding the importation and transportation of meat and poultry products. This information collection is due to expire.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE].

ADDRESSES: FSIS invites interested persons to submit comments on this notice. Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: This Web site provides the ability to type short comments directly into the

comment field on this Web page or attach a file for lengthier comments. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the on-line instructions at that site for submitting comments.

- Mail, including CD-ROMs, etc.: Send to Docket Clerk, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Patriots Plaza 3, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Mailstop 3782, Room 8-163A, Washington, DC 20250-3700.

- Hand- or courier-delivered submittals: Deliver to Patriots Plaza 3, 355 E. Street SW, Room 8-163A, Washington, DC 20250-3700

Instructions: All items submitted by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number FSIS-2012-0050. Comments received in response to this docket will be made available for public inspection and posted without change, including any personal information, to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

DOCKET: For access to background documents or comments received, go to the FSIS Docket Room at Patriots Plaza 3, 355 E. Street SW, Room 8-164, Washington, DC 20250-3700 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and

Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 6065, South Building, Washington, DC 20250; phone: (202) 720-0345.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Importation and Exportation of Meat and Poultry Products.

OMB Control No.: 0583-0094

Expiration Date: 3/31/13

Type of Request: Extension of an approved information collection.

Abstract: FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary of Agriculture (7 CFR 2.18, 2.53) as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, et seq.) and the Poultry Products and Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451, et seq.). FSIS protects the public by verifying that meat and poultry products are safe, wholesome, not adulterated, and correctly labeled.

FSIS is planning to request an extension of this approved information collection because it is due to expire on March 31, 2013.

Unless accounted for in an establishment's HACCP plan, meat and poultry products not marked with the mark of

inspection and shipped from one official establishment to another for further processing must be transported under USDA seal to prevent such unmarked product from entering into commerce (9 CFR 325.5). To track product shipped under seal, FSIS requires shipping establishments to complete FSIS Form 7350-1 that identifies the type, amount, and weight of the product.

Foreign countries exporting meat and poultry products to the United States must establish eligibility for importation of product into the U.S., and annually certify that their inspection systems are "equivalent to" the U.S. inspection system (9 CFR 327.2 and 381.196). Additionally, meat and poultry products intended for import into the U.S. must be accompanied by a certificate, signed by an official of the foreign government, stating that the products have been produced by certified foreign establishments (9 CFR 327.2 and 381.197).

Maintenance of eligibility of a country for importation of products into the U.S. depends on the results of periodic reviews of each establishment listed in the certification (9 CFR 327.2 and 381.196). A written report must be prepared by the representative of the foreign government documenting the findings with respect to

the effective operation of the system.

Meat and poultry products exported to the U.S. must be accompanied by a certificate signed by a responsible official of the exporting country (9 CFR 327.4 and 381.197).

Import establishments that wish to pre-stamp imported product with the inspection legend prior to FSIS inspection must submit a letter to FSIS requesting approval to do so (9 CFR 327.10(d) and 381.204).

FSIS has made the following estimates on the basis of an information collection assessment.

Estimate of Burden: FSIS estimates that it takes each respondent an average of 20.9 hours per year to complete the forms and documents described above.

Respondents: Importers, establishments, foreign governments.

Estimated No. of Respondents: 136.

Estimated No. of Annual Responses per Respondent: 650.

Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents: 2,846 hours.

Copies of this information collection assessment can be obtained from John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act

Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 1400 Independence SW, Room 6065, South Building, Washington, DC 20250; phone: (202)720-0345.

Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FSIS's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FSIS's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent both to FSIS, at the addresses provided above, and to the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20253.

Responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

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To file a written complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Additional Public Notification

FSIS will announce this notice online through the FSIS Web page located at

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_and_policies/Federal Register Notices/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_and_policies/Federal_Register_Notices/index.asp).

FSIS will also make copies of this Federal Register

publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, Federal Register notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to constituents and stakeholders. The Update is communicated via Listserv, a free electronic mail subscription service for industry, trade groups, consumer interest groups, health professionals, and other individuals who have asked to be included. The Update is also available on the FSIS Web page. In addition, FSIS offers an electronic mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Email_Subscription/. Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or

delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Done at Washington, DC, on: January 11, 2013

Alfred V. Almanza,
Administrator.

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